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(54) PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARDS

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See application file for complete search history.

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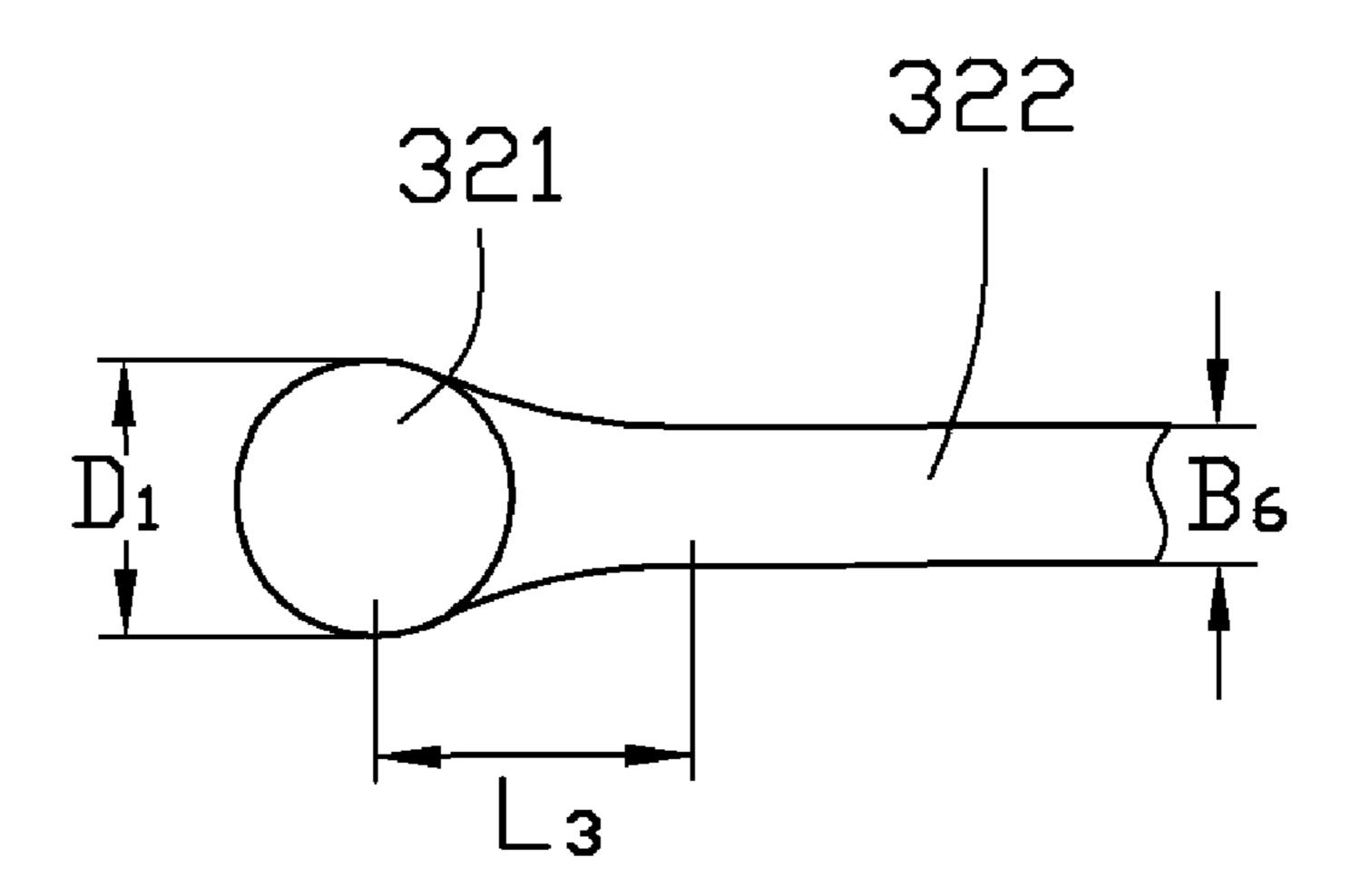
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(57) ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to a printed circuit board. In one embodiment, a printed circuit board includes a dielectric layer and a conductive trace formed on the dielectric layer. The conductive layer includes a first conductive portion, a connecting portion and a second conductive portion. The connecting portion includes a first end and a second end. The first end is connected to the first conductive portion; the second end is connected to the second conductive portion. A width of the connecting portion gradually decreases from the first end to the second end. Reflection and cross talk of signals transmitted in the presented printed circuit board can be reduced.

2 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets





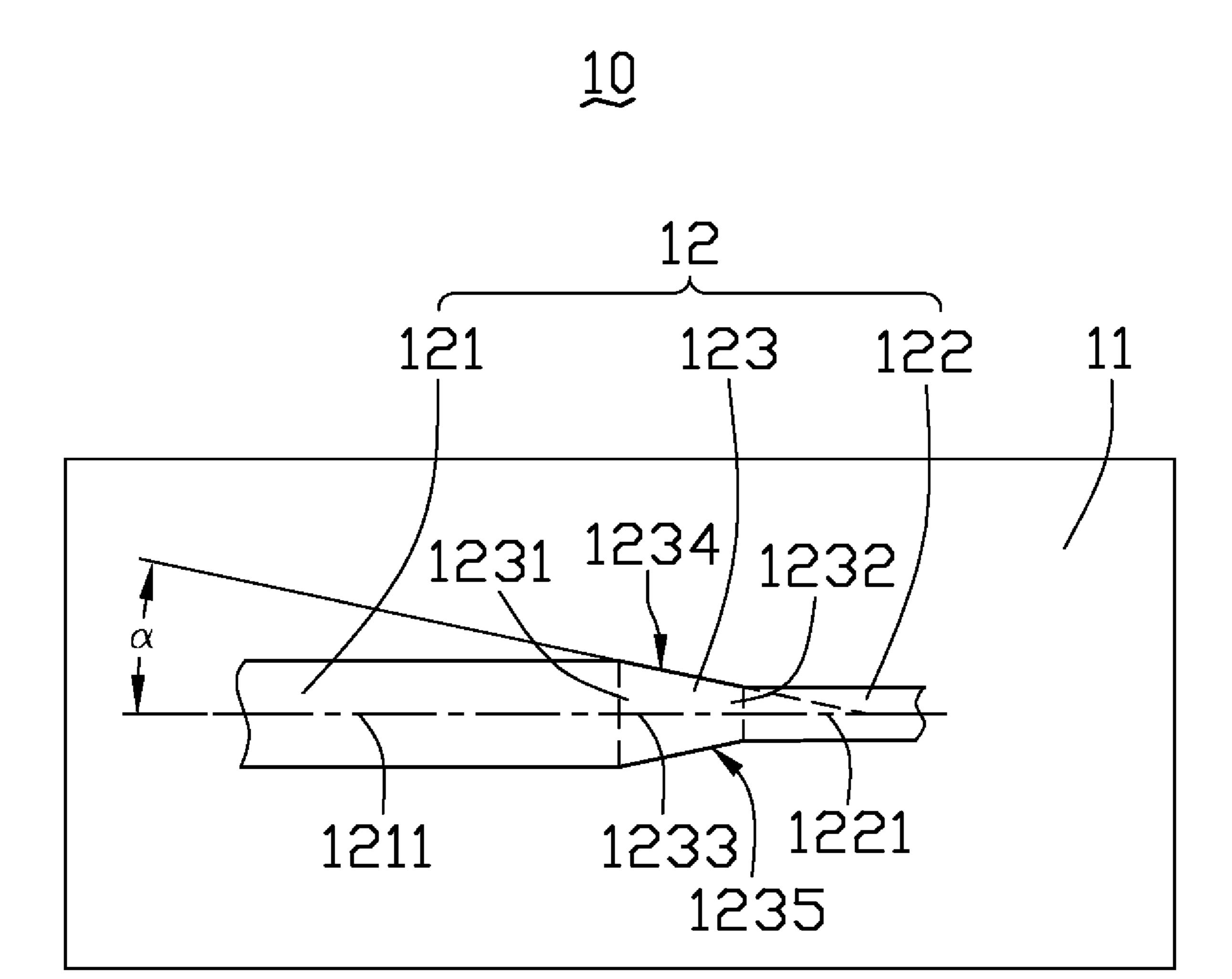
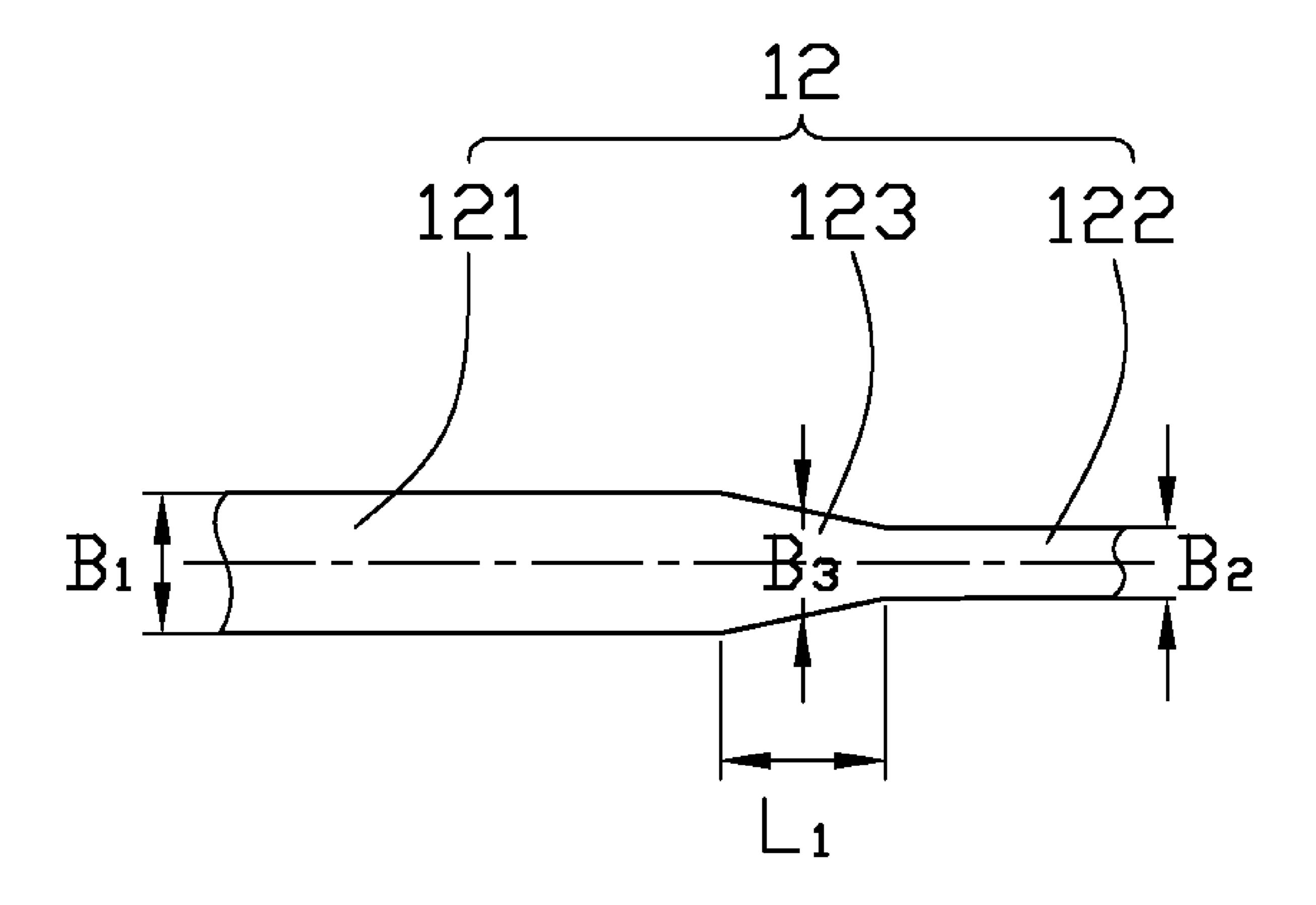


FIG. 1



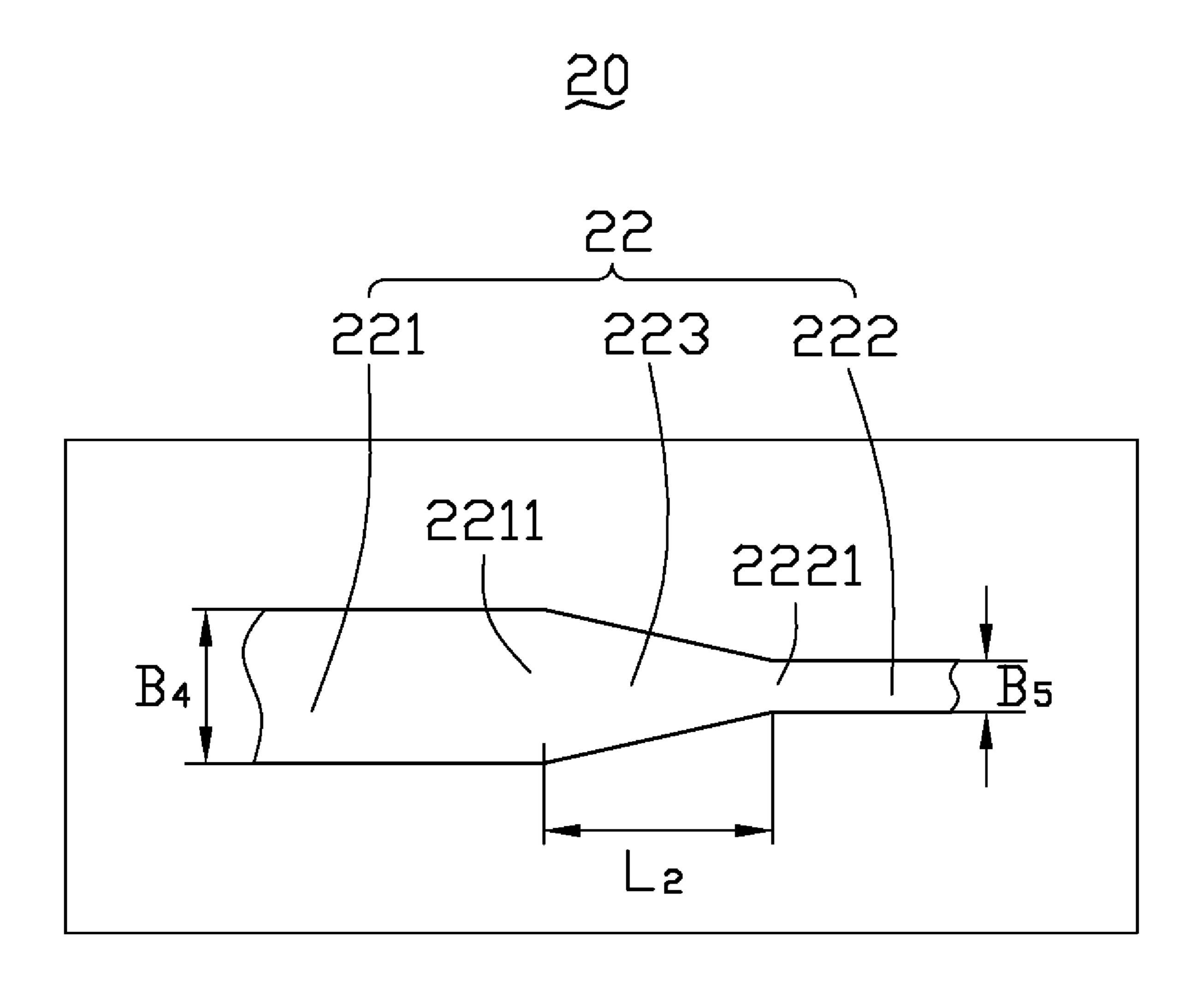


FIG. 3

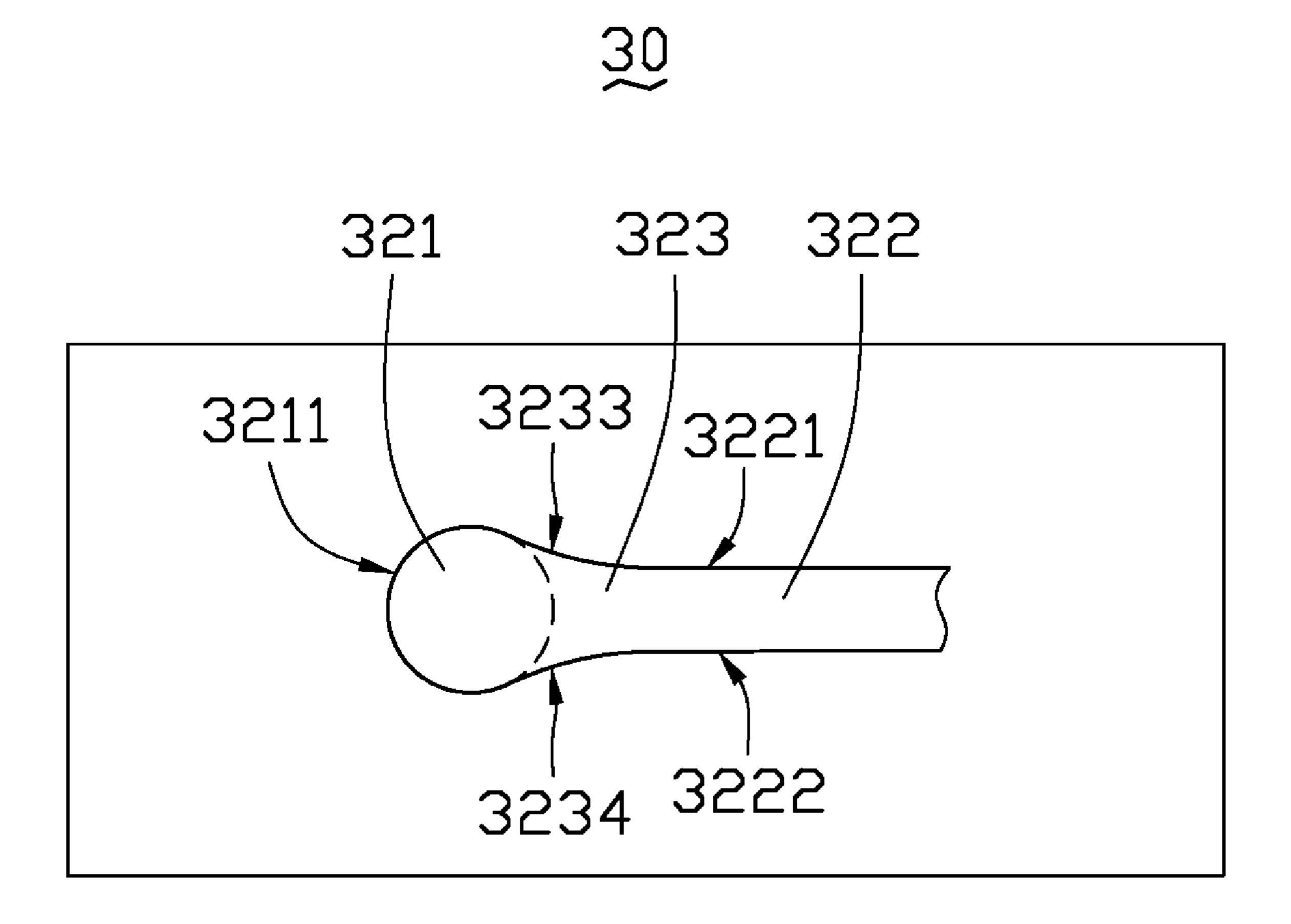
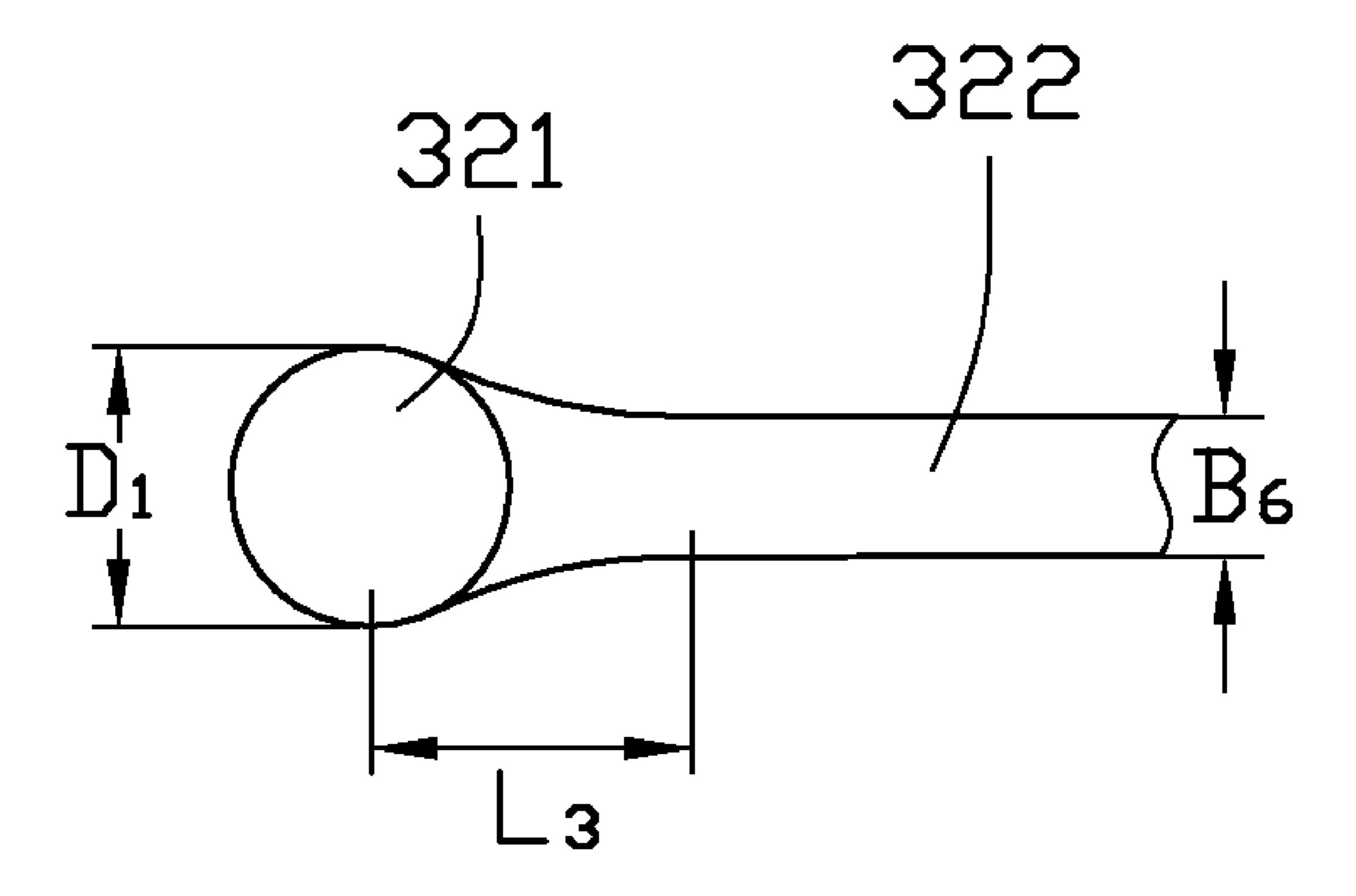


FIG. 4

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F1G. 5

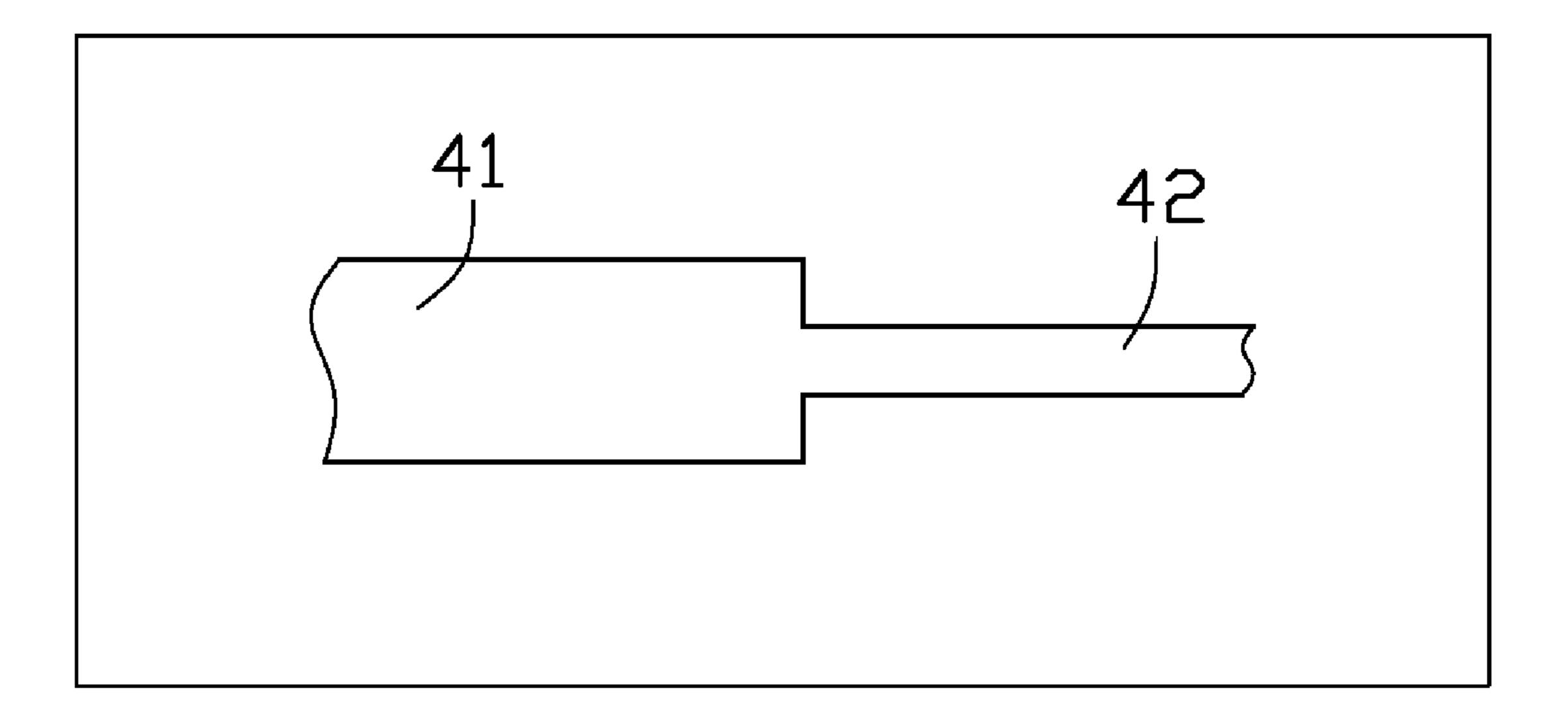


FIG. 6
(RELATED ART)

1

PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARDS

BACKGROUND

1. Technical Field

The present invention relates to printed circuit boards and, particularly, to printed circuit boards with reduced impedance mismatch.

2. Discussion of Related Art

Typically, printed circuit boards include at least one non-conductive sheet with at least one dielectric layer formed on a surface of the non-conductive sheet. Many types of conductive traces, for example, transmission lines and circuit terminals, can be formed in the conductive layer. The transmission lines and the circuit terminals may be interconnected.

FIG. 6 shows a typical structure of conductive trace, in which a first transmission line 41 and a second transmission line 42 having different widths are directly connected with each other. Generally, the depth of the first transmission line 41 equals to the depth of the second transmission line 42. Due to the difference in widths, the first transmission line 41 and 20 the second transmission line 42 have different impedances. In other words, the different widths cause impedance mismatch between the first transmission line 41 and the second transmission line 42. The impedance mismatch in printed circuit boards, especially in high-speed printed circuit boards may cause various problems, such as signal reflection, cross talk, signal retardance, etc.

Therefore it is desired to develop a printed circuit board that can reduce impedance mismatch between transmission lines and circuit terminals or other transmission lines.

SUMMARY

In one embodiment, a printed circuit board includes a dielectric layer and a conductive trace formed on the dielectric layer. The conductive layer includes a first conductive portion, a connecting portion and a second conductive portion formed therein. The connecting portion includes a first end and a second end. The first end is connected to the first conductive portion; the second end is connected to the second conductive portion. A width of the connecting portion gradually decreases from the first end to the second end.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Many aspects of the present printed circuit board can be 45 better understood with reference to the following drawings. The components in the drawings are not necessarily drawn to scale, the emphasis instead being placed upon clearly illustrating the principles of the present printed circuit board.

- FIG. 1 is a schematic view showing a printed circuit board 50 in accordance with a first embodiment;
- FIG. 2 is a schematic view showing a printed circuit board in accordance with a first embodiment;
- FIG. 3 is a schematic view showing a printed circuit board in accordance with a second embodiment;
- FIG. 4 is a schematic view showing a printed circuit board in accordance with a third embodiment;
- FIG. **5** is a schematic view showing a printed circuit board in accordance with a third embodiment; and
- FIG. **6** is a schematic view showing a printed circuit board in accordance with related art.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Referring to FIG. 1, a printed circuit board 10 in accordance with a first preferred embodiment includes a dielectric

2

layer 11 and a conductive trace 12 formed on the dielectric layer 11. The conductive trace 12 includes a first conductive portion 121, a connecting portion 123, and a second conductive portion 122. The connecting portion 123 includes a first end 1231 and a second end 1232. The first end 1231 is connected to the first conductive portion 121 and the second end 1232 is connected to the second conductive portion 122.

In the first preferred embodiment, the first conductive portion 121 and the second conductive portion 122 are transmission lines. The first conductive portion 121, the second conductive portion 122, and the connecting portion 123 define a central axis 1211, a central axis 1221, and a central axis 1233 respectively. The conductive trace 12 is substantially axially symmetrical. In other words, the central axes 1211, 1221, 1233 lie in a same line.

The first conductive portion 121 has a width of W_1 and the second conductive portion 122 has a width of W_2 . The width W_1 of the first conductive portion 121 is larger than the width W_2 of the second conductive portion 122. A width of the first end 1231 of the connecting portion 123 substantially equals to W_1 and a width of the second end 1232 of the connecting portion 123 substantially equals to W_2 . A width of the connecting portion gradually decreases from the first end 1231 to the second end 1232. Specifically, in the first preferred embodiment, W_1 =4 mils (1 mil= $\frac{1}{1000}$ inches) and W_2 =2 mils.

The connecting portion 123 includes two sidewalls 1234, 1235 adjacent to the dielectric layer 11. The sidewalls 1234, 1235 are on opposite sides of the connecting portion 123. Each of the sidewalls 1234, 1235 extends directly (straightly) from the first conductive portion 121 to the second conductive portion 122. Furthermore, each of the sidewalls 1234, 1235 extends from the first conductive portion 121 to the second conductive portion 122 at an acute angle α relative to the central axis 1233. The acute angle α is in a range from about 37° to about 54.5°. Preferably, the acute angle α is in the range from about 40° to about 49°.

The connecting portion 123 has a length of L_1 along a direction of the central axis 1233, i.e., the length L_1 equals to the shortest distance between the first end 1231 and the second end 1232. The length L_1 of the connecting portion 123 can be calculated using the width W_1 of the first conductive portion 121 and the width W_2 of the second conductive portion 122. Specifically, L_1 is in the range from $1.6*(W_1-W_2)$ to $2.4*(W_1-W_2)$. Preferably, L_1 is in the range from $1.8*(W_1-W_2)$ to $2.2*(W_1-W_2)$.

In the first preferred embodiment, L_1 equals to $2.2*(W_1-W_2)$, that is, L_1 =4.4 mils. Because the width of the connecting portion 123 gradually decreases from the first end 1231 to the second end 1232, a variable W_3 is used to represent the width of the connecting portion 123 at any point of the connecting portion 123. The width W_3 of the connecting portion 123 at a predetermined point can be calculated using a formula $W_2+2X*\tan(\alpha)$, wherein X represents a distance from the second end 1232 to the predetermined point of the connecting portion 123.

In these embodiments, the first conductive portion 121 and the second conductive portion 122 are connected to the first end 1231 and the second end 1232 of the connecting portion respectively. Furthermore a width of the connecting portion 123 gradually decreases form the first end 1231 to the second end 1232. As a result, impedance mismatch between the first conductive portion 121 and the second conductive portion 122 can be reduced/minimized, in addition, signal reflection and cross talk can also be reduced.

Referring to FIG. 3, a printed circuit board 20 in accordance with a second embodiment is similar to that of the first embodiment. The printed circuit board 20 includes a first

3

conductive portion 221, a connecting portion 223, and a second conductive portion 222. The connecting portion 223 includes a first end 2211, and a second end 2221. A width of the connecting portion 223 gradually decreases from the first end 2211 to the second end 2221. A width of the first conductive portion 221 is represented by a variable W_4 . A width of the second conductive portion 222 is represented by a variable W_5 . A length of the connecting portion 223 is represented by a variable W_5 . A length of the connecting portion 223 is represented by a variable W_5 . In the second embodiment, W_4 =6 mils, W_5 =2 mils, and V_5 =1.9*(V_4 - V_5), that is, V_5 =7.6 mils.

Referring to FIG. 4, a printed circuit board 30 in accordance with a third embodiment is similar to that of the first embodiment. The printed circuit board 30 includes a first conductive portion 321, a second conductive portion 322, and $_{15}$ a connecting portion 323. The first conductive portion 321 is a circular shaped welding pad, which has an arc-shaped sidewall **3211**. The second conductive portion **322** is a transmission line, which has two sidewalls 3221, 3222 on opposite sides of the second conductive portion **322**. The connecting 20 portion 323 includes two sidewalls 3233, 3234 on opposite sides of the connecting portion 323. The sidewall 3233 of the connecting portion 322 extends smoothly from the sidewall 3221 of the second conductive portion 322 to the sidewall 3121 of the first conductive portion 321. The sidewall 3234 of 25 the connecting portion 322 extends smoothly from the sidewall 3222 of the second conductive portion 322 to the sidewall 3121 of the first conductive portion 321. Preferably, each of the sidewalls 3233, 3234 extends smoothly from a tangential direction of the sidewall 3211 correspondingly.

In the third preferred embodiment, the sidewalls 3233, 3234 are curved shaped. Referring to FIG. 5, the first conductive portion 321 has a diameter of D_1 . The second conductive portion 322 has a width of W_6 . The connecting portion 323 has a length of L_3 . The diameter D_1 of the first conductive portion 321 is larger than the width W_6 of the second conductive portion 322. The length L_3 of the connecting portion 323 is in the range from $1.6*(D_1-W_6)$ to $2.4*(D_1-W_6)$. Preferably, L_3 is in the range from $1.8*(D_1-W_6)$ to $2.2*(D_1-W_6)$.

4

It is to be understood that the above-described embodiments are intended to illustrate rather than limit the invention. Variations may be made to the embodiments without departing from the spirit of the invention as claimed. The above-described embodiments illustrate the scope of the invention but do not restrict the scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

- 1. A printed circuit board comprising:
- a dielectric layer and a conductive trace formed on the dielectric layer, the conductive trace comprising a first conductive portion, a connecting portion and a second conductive portion, the first conductive portion being a circular shaped welding pad, the second conductive portion being a transmission line, the connecting portion comprising a first end and a second end, the first end being connected to the first conductive portion, the second end being connected to the second conductive portion, wherein a width of the connecting portion gradually decreases from the first end to the second end, the connecting portion comprises two sidewalls, each sidewall extends smoothly from the first conductive portion to the second conductive portion, each sidewall is curved shaped.
- 2. A printed circuit board comprising:
- a dielectric layer and a conductive trace formed on the dielectric layer, the conductive trace comprising a first conductive portion, a connecting portion and a second conductive portion, the first conductive portion being a circular shaped welding pad, the second conductive portion being a transmission line, the connecting portion comprising a first end and a second end, the first end being connected to the first conductive portion, the second end being connected to the second conductive portion, wherein a width of the connecting portion gradually decreases from the first end to the second end, the connecting portion comprises two sidewalls, each sidewall extends smoothly from the first conductive portion to the second conductive portion along a tangential direction of the first conductive portion.

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